United Nations E/C.19/2003/L.12

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
22 May 2003

Original: English

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Second session
New York, 12-23 May 2003
Agenda item 6
Future work of the Forum

Draft recommendations submitted by the Rapporteur

Future of the work of the Forum

Voluntary Fund

1. The Forum expresses its satisfaction with the establishment by the General Assembly of the Voluntary Fund for the Permanent Forum and calls upon Governments, foundations and others to give generously to the Fund in order to promote the work of the Forum.

2. The Forum expresses its support for the work of the Board of Trustees and the Advisory Group of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, urges Governments, non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities and individuals to contribute to the funds and supports the continuation of the activities of the Board of Trustees and Advisory Group of both Funds, which are considered a vital support to indigenous communities worldwide.

Secretariat of the Forum

3. The Forum takes note with satisfaction of the approval of resources by the General Assembly for the establishment of its secretariat and expresses the hope that, in accordance with the understanding reached, the remaining resources will be made available for the secretariat in the biennium 2004-2005.

Invitations to the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and cooperation with them

4. The Forum urges the United Nations Secretariat to protect the privileges and immunities of members of the Forum and recommends that immediate action be taken to address any reported incidents.

03-36949 (E) 220503

5. Should members of the Forum wish to submit working papers to the Forum under the various areas of its mandate, they are hereby formally requested to do so.

6. The Forum, taking into account the importance and potential of regional intergovernmental organizations in promoting indigenous issues in their respective regions, invites those organizations to contribute annually to its work.

Indigenous women

7. The Forum recommends to the Economic and Social Council, the relevant United Nations cooperating agencies and Governments of the region to provide technical facilities [and] grant the necessary political and moral support for organizing the Fourth Continental Summit of Indigenous Women of the Americas, to be held in Lima in March 2004.

Methods of work

8. Noting the challenge of securing the constructive participation of indigenous peoples' organizations in its sessions and ongoing work and of developing an active partnership between civil society, Governments and the United Nations system, the Forum recommends that a workshop be convened to develop innovative working methods for future sessions of the Forum, including methods of disseminating information before the sessions.

9. The Forum decides to create a database of recommendations proposed by Forum members and observers during sessions of the Forum that are not reflected in reports of the sessions, for further consideration.